**FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM**

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| **Area of Assessment:** | **Local Safer Streets Round 2 Tranche 3 Funding Allocations** |
| **Date of Assessment:** | **15 May 2024** |
| **Owner:** | **Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)** |
| **New or existing policy/function:** | **Existing – commissioning / grant funding** |
| **Stage 1 – Detail of policy, function, project or proposal** | |
| Briefly describe the aims, objectives and outcomes of the policy / function | |
| The PFCC’s Local Safer Streets Fund targets funding to hyper-local areas with the ambition to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour as well as improving the perception of crime and community safety amongst local residents.  The PFCC is proposing an investment of £1.6m via tranche 3 of round 2 of this fund. This will see investment in 19 projects across the breadth of Essex | |
| What policies / procedures / functions are relevant to this area? | |
| The Local Safer Streets Fund forms part of the PFCC’s broader commissioning function. | |
| **Stage 2 – Consider the Evidence** | |
| Which individuals and organisations are likely to be affected by the policy / function and in what way? | |
| The PFCC encouraged Safer Streets bids from Community Safety Partnerships, launching the fund at the PFCC conference in June 2023. The fund is restricted to bids from CSPs only, but CSPs are required to undertake consultation with stakeholders as part of the bid development process. The criteria of the PFCC’s Local Safer Streets Fund was provided to CSPs at the launch of the fund.  The intended impact of this work is to enhance community safety, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and boost the perception of safety amongst residents. Although the benefits should be felt by any and all residents, it is recognised that some members of the community may feel more vulnerable and may therefore benefit more from these investments. This includes women and girls who we know report feeling less safe in public areas. Individuals with other vulnerabilities, for instance younger or older residents, or those with disabilities, may also benefit more.  It is intended that residents as well as businesses, visitors, employees and all other stakeholders in an area will experience benefit from these projects as crime reduces, the perception of crime / ASB improves, and people have more confidence in public safety. | |
| What relevant quantitative data has been considered? | |
| Through the application process, CSPs are required to provide data and evidence about why investment should be made in the identified proposals. Specifically, the criteria ask that CPSs provide “*analysis of the factors driving the target crimes and issues in your target area and an overall hypothesis about the problem (we particularly welcome explanation of the data sources used, as well as the time period they cover). This could include:*   * *Analysis of previous incidents – including information about victims, offenders, method of offence, locations and times of offence.* * *Wider demographic information about the area, including markers of deprivation and risk factors associated with ASB if relevant.* * *Information gained from consultation with stakeholders about the causes of the problems in the target area.* * *Whether your area has previously attempted to tackle this issue, and if so, some insight into how this has impacted your analysis. For example, any use of the powers under the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act.* * *You are also encouraged to undertake an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) to assist with your response to this part of the question. To enable assessors to easily understand your local area it is important that the key information from your EVA is included in your main answer. You may attach your completed EVA to your application; however, assessors should not need to refer to this to understand your bid. The EVA will not be marked.*   As an example of some of the quantitative data, the below was received as part of the bid from Castle Point for its CCTV bid:  *The below table shows crime statistics from February 2023 to January 2024 compared to the previous year. Whilst most crime types show a reduction it is essential to recognise crime may still be persistent, but under reported.*   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | ***2022/23*** | ***2023/24*** | ***Diff No*** | ***Diff %*** | | *Anti-social behaviour* | *1011* | *660* | *-351* | *-34.7%* | | *Bicycle theft* | *60* | *38* | *-22* | *-36.7%* | | *Burglary* | *218* | *238* | *20* | *9.2%* | | *Criminal damage and arson* | *600* | *586* | *-14* | *-2.3%* | | *Drugs* | *195* | *163* | *-32* | *-16.4%* | | *Other crime* | *154* | *178* | *24* | *15.6%* | | *Other theft* | *453* | *432* | *-21* | *-4.6%* | | *Possession of weapons* | *57* | *62* | *5* | *8.8%* | | *Public order* | *613* | *491* | *-122* | *-19.9%* | | *Robbery* | *42* | *66* | *24* | *57.1%* | | *Shoplifting* | *247* | *332* | *85* | *34.4%* | | *Theft from the person* | *21* | *15* | *-6* | *-28.6%* | | *Vehicle crime* | *412* | *446* | *34* | *8.3%* | | *Violence and sexual offences* | *2888* | *2393* | *-495* | *-17.1%* |   *The current CCTV infrastructure, being analogue, is inadequate for effective surveillance and monitoring. Upgrading to digital CCTV allows for real-time monitoring. Upgrading to digital CCTV allows for real-time monitoring, improved image quality and easier data analysis, thus enhancing the ability to identify and respond to incidents promptly.*  For those projects within this tranche that came through the Community Safety Development Bid route, we also ask bidders, “*What evidence do you have that this project is needed? Can you demonstrate that the intervention will have the desired impact? (Please include details of any consultation or stakeholder engagement conducted)*” | |
| What relevant qualitative data has been considered? | |
| As part of the Safer Streets application process, bids are received directly from CSPs. For CSDF bids, CSPs have provided endorsement of the bids. This provides the PFCC with assurances that the project meets local needs and fits the aims and priorities of the local partnership.  For CSDF bids, bidders may provide case studies in their application. This can help bring to life the activity they are proposing and gives a flavour of the individual outcomes and impact of their project.  For Safer Streets bids, CSPs must undertake consultation with local stakeholders, specifically; “*A summary of the information obtained through your mandatory consultation with relevant stakeholders*”. As an example, the Oakwood Hills bid from Epping Forest CSP stated the following:  *“In the development of this bid we have consulted with the Epping Forest Health and Wellbeing Board and the Epping Forest Community Safety Partnership. Both boards are made of statutory partners such as the Herts and West Essex Integrated Care Board, Essex County Council, Epping Forest District Council, Essex Police and Essex County Fire and Rescue as well as third sector organisations.*  *All partners on the boards support the bid highlighting how the levels of deprivation on the estate are driving poor health outcomes and wider social issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour. In addition to the boards Epping Forest South Primary Care Network have also expressed support for the bid as Oakwood Hill is a priority area due to the high levels of hospital admissions and use of general practice services from residents on the estate.*” | |

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| Has the function / policy been subject to consultation? If no, why not? If yes, which individuals and organisations were consulted and what form did consultation take? | | | |
| Application process  The PFCC agreed the process for this funding via decision report 101-23 in May 2023. The PFCC reviewed and agreed in principle the proposed Safer Streets  criteria at a Senior Management Team meeting on 15th March 2023.  CSP Chairs and Managers were notified of the PFCC’s intention to launch this  fund in March 2023.  Bid development  For Safer Streets bids, CSPs must undertake consultation and engagement with stakeholders to evidence the need for their proposal and why they believe their activity will impact positively on that. This is a mandatory part of the application process.  For CSDF bids, our application form includes a requirement for bidders to engage with, and seek the endorsement of, their local Community Safety Partnership. This ensures that the applications meet the priorities of the local CSP and do not duplicate or interfere with other commissioned activity.  Evaluation process  The PFCC reviewed the proposals during its Senior Management Team meeting on 7th May 2024. | | | |
| Were any gaps in information identified? If so, what consideration has been given to commissioning work where required? | | | |
| This is the third tranche of funding in Round 2 of the PFCC’s Fund. The PFCC encouraged bids from areas that had not yet received any Home Office or Local Safer Streets funding. Castle Point is one of only two areas (the other being Uttlesford) that have not yet benefitted from Safer Streets investment.  The PFCC continues to engage Uttlesford CSP to elicit an application for work in that district. | | | |
| **Stage 3- Assessment of impact** | | | |
|  | | **Yes/No** | **Comments and evidence where appropriate** |
| **Potential for differential/ adverse impact based on analysis of data and information** | **Race** | Y | There is potential for individuals to be victims of hate crime because of their protected characteristics. By implementing these projects it is hoped that the opportunity for crime, including targeted hate crime in public places, could be reduced.  Some of the projects and proposals within this programme focus specifically on violence against women and girls. This is a deliberate decision to target a cohort which disproportionately experiences a higher level of harm and fear of crime. An example of one of the projects to support women and girls is the University of Essex sexual abuse support hub for women who may have experienced sexual abuse. The Chelmsford SOS bus is also a project that may target women and girls by ensuring they feel safe, and are safe, in the night-time economy.  Other projects that target a particular cohort include the Sanctus project that supports individuals with mental health issues that are homeless.  Finally, there are projects that target young people through the provision of youth clubs. These include Upshire, Team Kinetix, Wellbeing at Garon Park, and UTurn4Support. |
| **Disability (Including physical, sensory and mental health)** | Y |
| **Gender reassignment** | Y |
| **Age** | Y |
| **Religion or belief** | Y |
| **Sexual orientation** | Y |
| **Pregnancy and maternity** | N |
| **Marriage and civil partnership** | N |
| **Sex** | Y |

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| **Stage 4 – Deciding the way forward** | | | | | |
| If potential for differential / adverse impact remains explain why implementation is justifiable in order to meet the wider policy aims. | | | | | |
| There remains a desire to invest in Uttlesford to ensure every district in Essex has benefited from Safer Streets funding.  There are no residual areas of concern. | | | | | |
| Summarise any changes made to the policy to reduce or remove the potential for differential / adverse impact | | | | | |
| No changes in policy required. | | | | | |
| If the function / policy is to be abandoned, please explain why and how the implications will be managed | | | | | |
| The PFCC’s Safer Streets Fund and CSDF are annual grant funds. | | | | | |
| Describe how the function / policy promotes good relations | | | | | |
| The Safer Streets Fund has afforded the PFCC the opportunity to invest in local areas and utilise this to promote that investment to local people and stakeholders. The PFCC has seen positive news stories about Safer Streets investment and undertaken internal communications activity to promote this work. This exercise has also improved relations with CSPs, galvanising them and empowering them to consult and invest in local areas.  The Safer Streets Fund is also an excellent tool to boost awareness of the PFCC and improve local relations. The fund energises local community groups, giving them an opportunity to showcase their work and apply for much needed funding to deliver their activities. Promotion of the successful projects is a valuable way to deliver positive communications content and increase awareness of the value of local community-based activity. | | | | | |
| **Stage 5 - Monitoring Arrangements** | | | | | |
| Describe how the function / policy is (or will be) monitored | | | | | |
| The PFCC will need to recruit to the vacant Safer Streets Project Lead role in order to monitor the delivery of this grant funding effectively. This process is ongoing. In their absence, the PFCC will utilise the Commissioning Lead to provide this capacity.  The PFCC also expects local project leads and partners to take responsibility for monitoring arrangements and to help publicise the positive activity associated with this programme. The PFCC also uses a retained copywriter to support communications and media activity of CSDF projects, which could also be utilised for these grants. | | | | | |
| Have the assessment outcomes been fed back to those consulted? | | | | | |
| Yes, bidders have been informed of the outcome of the process (pending due diligence and PFCC endorsement).  The PFCC’s Senior Management Team reviewed this proposal at a meeting on 7th May 2024  In due course, the decision report listing the successful projects will be published on the PFCC’s website. | | | | | |
| **Impact assessed by:** | **Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)** | **Date:** | **15/5/24** |
| **Approved by (owner):** | **Pippa Brent-Isherwood (Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer)** | **Date:** | **31/05/24** |